



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 555**

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**Chairperson:** Joel Johnson  
**Committee:** Health and Human Services  
**Date of Hearing:** February 14, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 555 would establish a pilot program that would study providing paid caregivers to individuals sixty-five years of age and older that would likely require either a skilled nursing facility or an intermediate care facility. This program would study potential long-term savings in Medicaid payments to the state of Nebraska by keeping qualified individuals in their own homes instead of skilled care facilities. This pilot program would begin on September 1, 2007 and would be located in one urban and one rural county, terminating on June 30, 2008.

It would also require the Department of Health and Human Services to seek a waiver from the Federal Government that would allow the state of Nebraska to begin such a program. The Department of Health and Human Services would also promulgate all appropriate rules and regulations to oversee such a program.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Brad Ashford**